

Agenda item 4

Continuing to advance the implementation of Article 4.1

20. A number of Parties reported on measures being undertaken to implement Article 4.1, including cooperation between Parties. Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention expressed the readiness to advance the preparation of their initial communications, taking into account Article 4.3, 4.5 and 4.7 of the Convention and paragraph 2 (b) of the Berlin Mandate, in order to supplement their sustainable development.

21. It was noted that the SBSTA at its second session would consider recommendations from the secretariat on guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (FCCC/SBSTA/1995/3, para. 35).

22. The AGBM took note with appreciation the position paper of G-77 and China on the organisation of a workshop/forum on initial communications of non-Annex I Parties (see Misc.1/). The need for a workshop/forum, in which experts from Parties not included in Annex I could exchange experiences on the methodologies for and preparation of the initial communications, was discussed. The AGBM invited its Chairman to consult with the Chairman of the SBSTA, as well as with the Chairman of the G-77 and China, and Parties not include in Annex 1, and requested them, with the assistance of the secretariat, to organise such a workshop/forum in conjunction with the second session of SBSTA, that is, before the next session of the AGBM. The technical experiences of Annex I Parties in using the methodologies and preparing their communications would be helpful to the workshop/forum.

23. The importance of the timely availability of financial resources to enable Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, including least developed countries, to prepare their communications was stressed. The AGBM noted that the GEF was taking initial steps in this regard, and encouraged the GEF to ensure an adequate and timely flow of funding for this purpose.

24. The need for a discussion in the third session of the AGBM on innovative, efficient and state-of-the-art technologies and knowhow was reiterated.